

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 ACDA-07 IO-13 /091 W
-----281306Z 006729 /45

R 281024Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0684
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0232

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, IS, EG
SUBJECT: ST. CATHARINE'S MONASTERY

REF: JERUSALEM 0435

1. OF POSSIBLE PERIPHERAL INTEREST ON STATUS OF ST. CATHARINE'S MONASTERY IN SINAI (PARA 5, REFTEL), ON VISIT THERE IN 1959, ABBOT IN CHARGE TOLD ME MONASTERY WAS CLOSED TO ALL EXCEPT VIP VISITORS DURING 6 MONTHS OF ISRAELI "OCCUPATION" FOLLOWING 1956 SUEZ WAR.
2. HE SHOWED ME (AND MEMBERS OF EGYPTIAN TOUR GROUP I WAS ACCOMPANYING) GUEST REGISTER WITH MERE HANDFUL OF ISRAELI NAMES OF CALIBRE OF GEN DAYAN AND CABINET LEVEL CIVILIANS.
3. OF COURSE, DURING THAT BRIEF "OCCUPATION", SINAI WAS MORE NEARLY ON WAR FOOTING AND GOI DID NOT OPEN IT TO VISITING PUBLIC AS WAS DONE SOME MONTHS AFTER 1967 WAR. NEVERTHELESS, MONASTERY DOES HAVE PRECEDENT AT LEAST TACITLY CONCURRED IN BY GOI OF THOSE DAYS.
CHASE
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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